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ABSTRACT

Initial data from a survey of drug usage among college students was presented. A large-scale effort was made to produce reliable figures on: (1) drug use patterns; (2) attitudes toward drug use; and (3) incidence of drug use among college students. Questionnaires were answered by 26,000 college students from the Denver-Boulder area, who were delineated according to sex, age, race, religious background, marital status, academic year and standing, field of concentration, living situation, type of school, parental income and social class. The questionnaire addressed itself to the following issues: (1) frequency of use; (2) mood states at the time of usage; (3) age at first usage and reasons for continuing or discontinuing the use of drugs; (4) attitudes of users and non-users toward drug use; (5) plans for future use; and (6) attitudes toward drug legislation. The data, which focused primarily on amphetamines, marihuana, and LSD, were carefully analyzed. The liabilities of this type of research are mentioned. (TL)

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PATTERNS OF DRUG USE AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS: A PRELIMINARY REPORT

by

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PATTERNS OF DRUG USE AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS[1]

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Recent years have produced a mounting flood of scientific and lay literature on the topic of drugs. Proponents and opponents of the use of marijuana and other psychoactive drugs have been equally vociferous in their praise and condemnation of these substances. Much legislation has been proposed and some enacted in an effort to control their use and distribution.

Much of the concern has focused on our young people, and estimates of the frequency of drug use on college campuses have been numerous and have varied widely. (1-13) Despite this, few large-scale studies have been done that were likely to yield reliable figures on drug use patterns,

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attitudes toward drug use and the incidence of drug use among college students.

In our study, questionnaires were mailed to all 41,587 undergraduate and graduate students at the nine participating universities, colleges and professional schools in the Denver-Boulder metropolitan area. After adjustment for non-deliverable questionnaires, 39,766 were delivered to students.

The questionnaire addressed itself to the following issues: (1) frequency of drug use, (2) the mood states of students at the time of drug use, (3) the age of first usage and the reasons for continuing or not continuing the use of drugs, (4) attitudes towards drug use of both users and nonusers, (5) plans for future use, (6) attitudes toward drug legislation, (7) items designed tc measure the extent of alienation of the student, as well as (8) classification data which included sex, age, marital status, year in college or graduate school, academic rating, field of concentration, living situation, religion, ethnic origin, parental income and social class.

This effort focused primarily on the use of amphetamines, marijuana and LSD, but included a brief survey of

other hallucinogens, stimulants, hypnotics, tranquilizers, alcohol and glue sniffing.

We are indebted to Professor Kenneth Eells, who conducted a similar survey at the California Institute of Technology, for permission to use his questionnaire and basic methodology which we have expanded and modified to suit our purposes.[3] The method he used, which we have adopted, permitted us to follow up those students who have not responded, while protecting the anonymity of responders. Included in the data mailer for each student was a questionnaire, instruction card, business reply envelope and business reply postcard containing the name and address of the student. The instructions to the student were to (1) fill out the questionnaire and return it in the reply envelope, and (2) return the postcard separately. Thus, we had a record of which students returned the questionnaire and could follow up those who did not.

Characteristics of the Total Sample

We sent out 40,000 questionnaires and received 27,000 responses of which over 26,000 were usable. This represents a 66% return rate.

There are almost twice as many men as women in our sample, and 97% of our respondents are white. Of the non-white proportion of our sample there are more Orientals than there are Negroes. Undergraduates comprise 76% of the sample and 18%

of the total sample are part-time students. In terms of religious background, 57% of the students come from a Protestant background and 24% from a Roman Catholic background, 5% come from a background of Judaism and 8% report no formal religious background. About two thirds (65%) of the students do not live in any form of campus housing. These figures correspond closely to the composition of the total student population in our area.

The question arises as to whether or not our survey can present an accurate reflection of drug usage by college students in our area. It is generally assumed that many factors tend to influence results in a survey of this type. We hope that they offset one another, but we cannot be sure.

Some drug users fear that even a large anonymous questionnaire is some kind of trap which will make it possible to identify them and bring the law down on their heads. In view of the police surveillance and sometimes harassment to which drug users have been subject, this is a fairly understandable concern on their part. We assume, therefore, that some drug users were afraid to respond. We can only hope that they were balanced on the one hand by users whose desire to proselytize caused them to exaggerate the extent of their drug usage and, on the other hand, by the indifference of non-drug users to this kind of questionnaire.

We have some evidence for the existence of such attitudes in the comments that were written on the return post cards. Comments such as "I returned your questionnaire blank because your classification data would make it easy for you to find out my identity," or "I am a middle-aged housewife taking a few courses for my own pleasure and somehow this whole issue doesn't concern me, so I haven't filled out your questionnaire," and, most frequently: "Please be sure to let us know the results as soon as they are available."

No one can hope to eliminate completely biases inherent in this type of research, but we are currently engaged in analysis of follow-up questionnaires and interviews to see if non-responders are different in any significant way from our present sample.

Reported History of Drug Use

We findtthat, in our total sample, 14% of the students have at least once in their life used amphetamines without a doctor's prescription, 26% have used marijuana and 5% have used LSD. These percentage figures are presented in Figure 1 and are representative of the 7,810 students who reported

INSERT FIGURE 1 ABOUT HERE

drug usage. That is, 3,741 students have used amphetamines, 6,764 have used marijuana and 1,389 have used LSD at least once. It is readily apparent that there is of course a

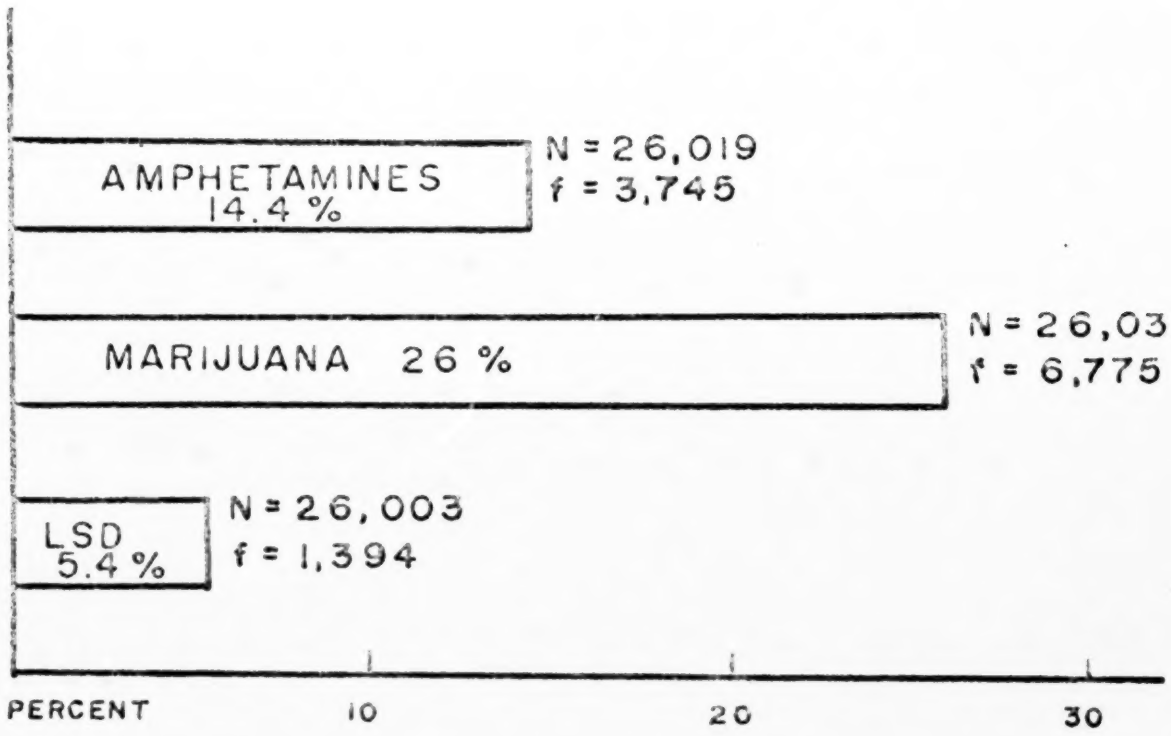

FIGURE 1. Reported history of AML use in the total sample.

considerable amount of overlap among the users, (for instance, virtually no one has used LSD who has not also used marijuana). In an attempt to clarify the degree of overlap in drug usage and also to distinguish heavy drug users from those who have used drugs on an experimental or casual basis, we broke the sample down into a number of categories. In essence these represent the permutation and combination of possible patterns of drug use.

INSERT TABLE I ABOUT HERE

We have rather arbitrarily defined experimental users as those who have used one or more drugs a maximum of two times per drug; casual users as those who have used one or more drugs a maximum of nine times per drug; and moderate-to-heavy users as those who have used one or more drugs ten times or more. Again, we stress that the figures do not necessarily reflect current usage. They are based on reported lifetime histories. These data are presented in Table I. As can be seen from Table I, 48% of the users or almost one-half report that they have used only marijuana. There is a significant number, 14% who have used only amphetamines presumably to help them study, as a mood elevator or for weight and appetite control. The number of students who have used only LSD and no other drugs is negligible. It appears that almost all LSD users have also tried marijuana and most have also used amphetamines.

TABLE I

PERCENT OF AML USERS IN EACH CATEGORY OF USE (N = 7,810)

	Extent of Use							
	Experimental		Casual		Moderate-to-Heavy		Totals	
Drug Used	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Amphetamines Only	512	6.6	320	4.1	247	3.2	1079	13.8
Marijuana Only	1751	22.4	1062	13.6	895	11.5	3708	47.5
LSD Only	18	0.2	3	0.0	0	0.0	21	0.3
Amphet. & Mar.	184	2.4	435	5.6	1016	13.0	1635	20.9
Mar. & LSD	16	0.2	57	0.7	300	3.8	373	4.8
Amphet. & LSD	2	0.0	3	0.0	5	0.0	10	0.1
Amphet., Mar. & LSD	5	0.0	34	0.4	945	12.1	984	12.6
Totals	2488	31.9	1914	24.5	3408	43.6	7810	100.0

Students who have used marijuana, amphetamines or both but who have not used LSD account for 83% of the drug users. Thus only 17% of drug users have used LSD as against 47% who have used amphetamines and 85% who have used marijuana.

If a student has used only one drug, the tendency is for him to have used that drug experimentally or casually rather than heavily. Of the single drug users, 76% fall into the experimental or casual use category.

If a student has used more than one drug, there is a marked tendency for him to fall into the heavy drug use category. Of the poly-drug users, 75% are in the moderate-to-heavy category and only 25% fall into the experimental or casual category. We expected that this would be the case, but it is interesting to see such striking statistical confirmation of this fact.

It is apparent that marijuana is the most frequently used drug and that a greater proportion of students have used it more frequently than they did the other two drugs. Figure 2 shows this clearly. When we plot each drug

INSERT FIGURE II ABOUT HERE

separately according to frequency of use, we see that the patterns for amphetamines and LSD are similar in that the percentage of users decreases as the frequency of use increases. For marijuana this is not the case and we see

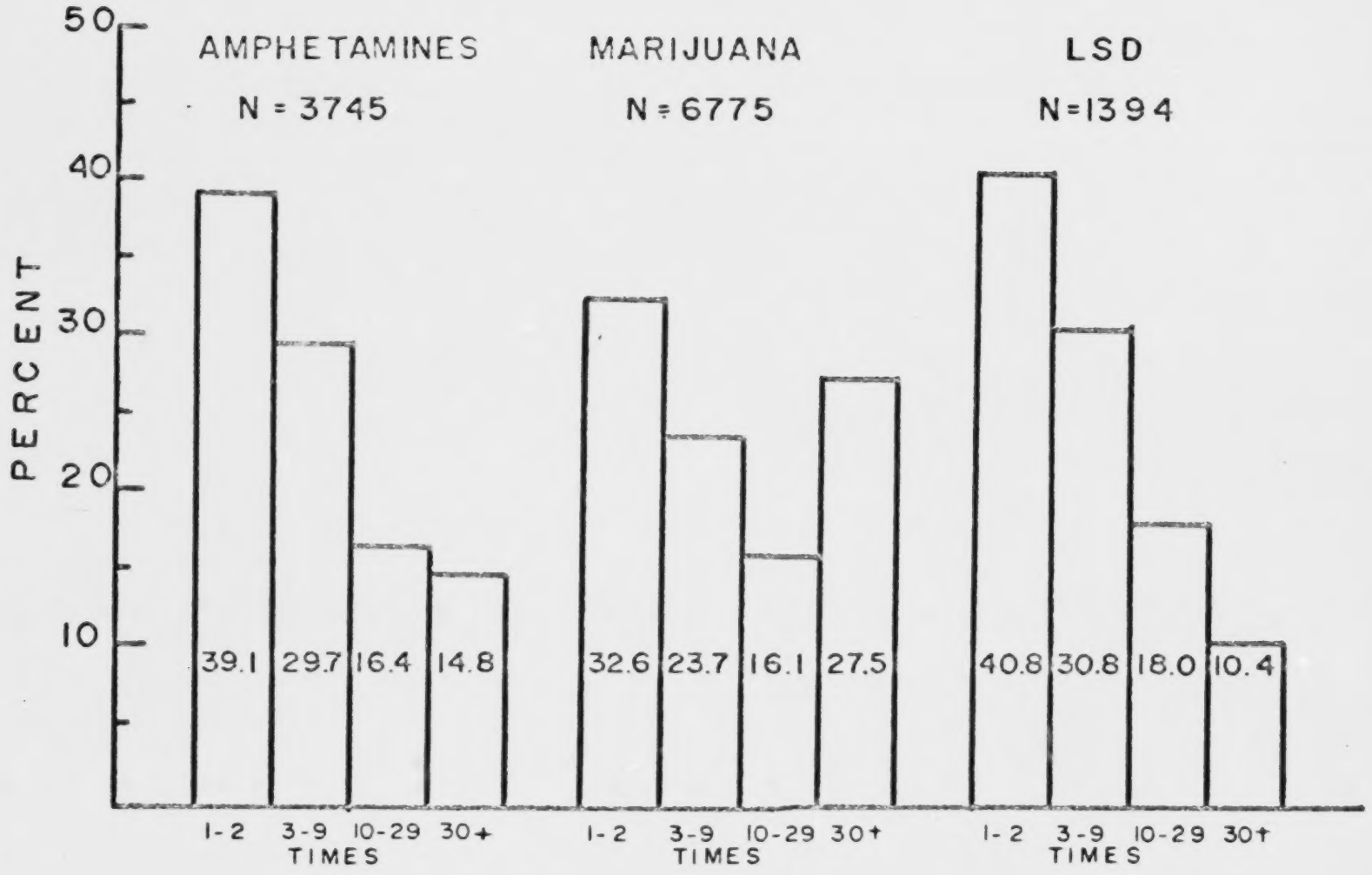

FIGURE 2. Frequency of amphetamine, marijuana and LSD use among AML users.

that a large percentage of users who have used the drug have used it more than thirty times.

It is striking that approximately one out of three students report that at some time during their life they have participated in extra-legal use of one or more of these drugs. As we have seen above, however, most of these students have been experimental or casual users and a much smaller percentage of these students fall into the moderate-to-heavy use category.

Estimate of Current Drug Use

To arrive at an estimate of current usage, we turn to the item which read as follows: "The primary reason I am still using the drug after the first time is--." The second category for this item is: "I am no longer using this drug." Therefore, the number of responses to the second choice for this item may be taken as an indicator of the number of individuals who have discontinued use of each of the three major drugs.

Of the total number of drug users responding to this item, 1255 have used LSD (alone or in addition to other drugs), 3,499 have used amphetamines (alone or in addition to other drugs), and 6,366 have used marijuana (alone or in addition to other drugs). The results for these three classes of users are reported in Table II.

INSERT TABLE II ABOUT HERE

TABLE II

PERCENT OF AML USERS WHO HAVE DISCONTINUED USE

	N	f	% Discontinued
Amphetamines	3499	1818	51.9
Marijuana	6366	2508	39.4
LSD	1255	654	52.1

As can be seen, the proportion of individuals having discontinued use of marijuana is markedly less than for either of the other two drugs. It also appears that the discontinuation rate for both LSD and amphetamines may be set at approximately 50% of users.

We may now arrive at an estimate of current drug usage for the total sample of 26,000 students. This may be accomplished by subtracting the number of individuals reporting that they have discontinued use (Table II) from the number of individuals reporting a history of drug usage (Figure 1). Having performed this operation, we now estimate that (1) 735 or 2.8% of the students are currently using LSD: (2) 1,923 or 7.4% are currently using amphetamines; and (3) 4,256 or 16.4% are currently using marijuana.

One must be extremely careful, however, in interpreting this latter finding. We note that this estimate, when compared with reported history of usage (Figure 1) reduces that incidence figure by approximately 50% for all three classes of drugs. It may well be that our figure systematically underestimates the current usage pattern. It is entirely possible that students were willing to admit to having used drugs in the past, but were unwilling to admit to current usage. We can only state that the above estimate of current usage patterns is the best derivable from our data at the present time.

Plans for Future Use of Amphetamines, Marijuana and LSD

A critical portion of the study, from the standpoint of prediction, was an attempt to estimate the potential for future drug usage among the college students surveyed. The questionnaire item which was directed at that question read as follows:

> My plans for possible use of the drug in the next year may be described as (check the appropriate box for each drug)

		AMP	MAR	LSD
(1)	I definitely expect to use it more than once or twice	☐	☐	☐
(2)	I definitely expect to use it once or twice but probably will not continue using it beyond that	☐	☐	☐
(3)	I might use it once or twice, but I'm not very sure	☐	☐	☐
(4)	I have no present plans for using it, but I might change my mind	☐	☐	☐
(5)	I am quite sure that I will not use it	☐	☐	☐

There were a total of 24,076 responses to this item. Of these, 6,961 (29%) had reported a history of drug use and 17,115 (71%) were non-users. Table III presents the results for non-users, total users (regardless of drug or drugs used)

INSERT TABLE III ABOUT HERE

and the total sample. The first two response choices were summed and are presented under the category "Plan to Use." Response choices 3 and 4 were considered to be representative of ambivalance on the part of the respondents, the key phrases being "....might use...but...not very sure" and "...might change my mind". Responses to these two choices were summed and are presented under the category "ambivalence". Response choice 5 represents reasonable certainty on the part of the respondent that he will not use the drug in the future. Responses to this choice are presented under "Will Not Use".

Several interesting findings emerge from the data presented in Table III. In general, individuals who report a history of drug use are more likely than non-users to use each of the three drugs in the future. They are also more likely to be ambivalent about each of the drugs. The difference between these two groups is greatest in the case of future plans for use of marijuana (37% of users and 1% of non-users

TABLE III

PLANS FOR FUTURE USE AMONG AML USERS AND NON-USERS

AML Users (N = 6,961)						
	Amphetamines		Marijuana		LSD	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Plan to Use	1006	14.4	2593	37.2	483	6.9
Ambivalent	2181	31.3	2440	35.1	1463	21.0
Will Not Use	3774	54.2	1928	27.7	5015	72.0
Total %		99.9		100.0		99.9

Non-Users (N = 17,115)						
	Amphetamines		Marijuana		LSD	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Plan to Use	96	0.6	177	1.0	59	0.3
Ambivalent	1229	7.2	2670	15.6	704	4.1
Will Not Use	15790	92.2	14268	83.4	16352	95.5
Total %		100.0		100.0		99.9

Total Sample (N = 24,076)						
	Amphetamines		Marijuana		LSD	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Plan to Use	1102	4.6	2770	11.5	542	2.2
Ambivalent	3410	14.2	5110	21.2	2167	9.0
Will Not Use	19564	81.2	16196	67.2	21367	88.7
Total %		100.0		99.9		99.9

plan future use). Marijuana definitely emerges as the drug of preference for both users and non-users. This is especially true when the "ambivalence" category is taken into consideration. For non-users, 16% are ambivalent about future marijuana use while ambivalence is expressed by only 7% with regard to amphetamines and 4% with regard to LSD.

In the face of the widespread publicity (both positive and negative) given to LSD, it appears that this hallucinogen is the least popular of the three major drugs surveyed. For drug users, twice as many plan to use amphetamines (14%) as compared with LSD (7%). The same relationship holds for non-users (0.6% for amphetamines and 0.3% for LSD). There is also less ambivalence about LSD use. Among users, 31% are ambivalent about future amphetamines usage and 21% are ambivalent about future LSD usage. Among non-users, 7% are ambivalent about future amphetamine usage and 4% are ambivalent about future LSD usage. Apparently, students are more certain about whether they will or will not use LSD than they are about the other two drugs, and the tendency is to decide against its use.

Among users of marijuana, the reverse is true. This is the only instance where the proportion of individuals planning future use (37%) exceeds that planning not to use the drug (28%). There is a great deal of ambivalence among persons

with a history of marijuana use (35%), but the tendency is to decide in favor of future use.

For the total college population, without regard for use or non-use, the following general statements may be made:

(1) 5% of college students in our survey plan future use of amphetamines (and an additional 14% are ambivalent about its use);

(2) 12% of college students in our survey plan future use of marijuana (and an additional 21% are ambivalent about its use);

(3) 2% of college students in our survey plan future use of LSD (and an additional 9% are ambivalent about its use).

At this point, however, we must reintroduce the caution mentioned above under "Estimate of Current Drug Usage". Because of fears of somehow being identified, students may have been willing to admit to past usage but reluctant to reveal definite plans for future use. Consequently, our figures may in fact underestimate the future plans of these students and this should be borne in mind when interpreting the data. It may be possible that a sizeable proportion of our "ambivalent" category is accounted for by such responding. That is also a matter for future investigation.

Reasons for Use and Mood States

We were interested in the intellectual and affective processes that influence student drug usage. To assess this, we constructed a number of questions which afforded respondents an opportunity to select one of a number of reasons and mood states bearing on these issues.

We asked why students used these drugs in the first place. As seen in Table IV "to help study or get through

INSERT TABLE IV ABOUT HERE

exams," was the most frequently stated reason for the use of amphetamines, accounting for 60% of the responses. Only 10% listed the next most popular response, which was curiosity.

But, curiosity rated as the number one reason for use of marijuana the first time, accounting for 58% of the responses, with another 26% feeling that the drug experience itself would be worthwhile. These two responses were also the most frequent ones listed for LSD usage, but in reverse order. 44% of first time users felt LSD would be a worthwhile experience, and 36% listed curiosity as their reason.

We see the influence of the mystical, almost religious, aura that has come to surround the use of LSD in this instance on the essential experience as being worthwhile by almost half of the responders.

TABLE IV

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF REASON FOR FIRST TIME USE AMONG AML USERS (BY DRUGS)

Reason for first use	Amphetamines		Marijuana		LSD	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Because I was curious	382	10.2	3813	58.4	477	35.8
To defy people who said I should not	7	0.2	13	0.2	3	0.2
To please my friends or not to be thought afraid	25	0.7	141	2.2	12	0.9
For kicks	177	4.7	377	5.8	51	3.8
I am not sure why	88	2.3	210	3.2	57	4.3
To help with personal problems	96	2.6	67	1.0	56	4.2
I thought it would be worthwhile for its own sake	140	3.7	1676	25.7	594	44.6
To help study or get through exams	2252	60.0	2	0.0	5	0.4
Reasons other than listed	584	15.6	232	3.6	78	5.9
Totals	3751	100.0	6531	100.1	1333	100.1

Interestingly, but perhaps not surprisingly, our least popular responses for all drugs were: (1) to defy people who said I should not, and (2) in response to peer group pressures. Together, these accounted for less than 1% of responses. Clearly, it is unacceptable to think of oneself as being influenced either negatively or positively by others. Yet, most careful observers of the drug scene, including the authors, have the distinct impression that this kind of influence is only too commonly a factor in drug usage.

We felt that in trying to understand the use of illegal and possibly dangerous drugs, it was important to know not only the reason why students used the drug in the first place, but also what mood they were in when they did so. Table V indicates that the mood states offered did not

INSERT TABLE V ABOUT HERE

suit the amphetamine users, 41% of whom checked the category entitled: "A mood other than those listed". It is clear from other questions that, had we included tired or sleepy as mood states, we would have had a response to these options because three-fourths of all continuing users use amphetamines to help them study and to pep them up. For marijuana and LSD some interesting findings emerge. 55% said they were happy or relaxed when first they used marijuana, with only 16% admitting

TABLE V

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MOOD AT FIRST USE

AMONG AML USERS (BY DRUGS)

Mood at first use	Amphetamines		Marijuana		LSD	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Depressed	303	8.2	263	4.0	56	4.2
Anxious	812	21.9	1068	16.3	307	22.8
Lonely	28	0.8	110	1.7	25	1.8
Sexually inhibited	14	0.4	50	0.8	16	1.2
Bored	177	4.8	424	6.5	62	4.6
Angry	17	0.5	25	0.4	7	0.5
Happy	345	9.3	1893	28.9	384	28.5
Relaxed	436	11.8	1708	26.0	256	19.0
Disillusioned	42	1.1	122	1.9	43	3.2
Mood other than listed	1528	41.3	895	13.6	190	14.1
Totals	3702	100.1	6558	100.1	1346	99.9

to anxiety. The percentages for LSD are rather similar, with 48% claiming they were happy or relaxed, and 23% listing anxiety as their predominant affect.

The least popular responses were (1) it relieves loneliness, (2) it relieves sexual inhibitions, and (3) it makes me less angry. Again, it seems as though negative emotions, inhibitions, or personal shortcomings are either not present or need to be denied.

In asking students why they continued drug usage after the first time (TableVII), 76% of amphetamine users listed

INSERT TABLE VI ABOUT HERE

"it helps me study", and "it peps me up".

With marijuana, "pleasure" or "fun" accounted for 68% of responses, with "it gives me greater insight into myself" accounting for only 7% of responses. For LSD, 38% listed the acquisition of insight as their reason for continued usage, and 31% felt it to be primarily pleasurable or fun.

Reasons for Discontinuing Use

In trying to determine why students discontinued the use of a particular drug, we encountered the greatest difficulty with our response choices. As can be seen in Table VII,

TABLE VI

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF REASON FOR CONTINUING USE AMONG AML USERS (BY DRUGS)

Reason Continuing	Amphetamines		Marijuana		LSD	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
It brings me closer to people	7	0.4	129	3.2	13	2.1
It gives me greater insight into myself	20	1.1	272	6.8	242	38.2
It helps me to understand others	4	0.2	44	1.1	24	3.8
It helps me study	941	53.1	4	0.1	4	0.6
It makes me more creative	24	1.4	111	2.8	24	3.8
It is pleasurable (fun)	134	7.6	2721	68.2	197	31.1
It peps me up	413	23.3	23	0.6	3	0.5
Reasons other than listed	229	12.9	687	17.2	126	19.9
Totals	1772	100.0	3991	100.0	633	100.0

INSERT TABLE VII ABOUT HERE

60% of those who had discontinued amphetamines and marijuana checked the category "reason other than listed". For LSD this figure drops to 38%. It is significant that 24% became convinced that LSD might be physically or genetically harmful and an additional 18% were most concerned about the psychological harm it might do to them. It is clear that at least those students who discontinue drug usage see LSD as being the drug most likely to harm them physically or genetically. There is some concern (17%) about the physical harm associated with amphetamine usage and there is also some concern (16%) about the legal consequences of using marijuana. On the other hand, since fear of legal consequences was the primary reason for stopping among only 16% of the 3,092 students who have discontinued the use of marijuana, we must question the deterrent effectiveness of the laws regulating the use of this drug.

Academic Year and Type of Institution

Another aim of our study was to see in what way drug usage patterns differ among graduate and undergraduate students. We see in Figure 3 that the percentage of under-

INSERT FIGURE 3 ABOUT HERE

TABLE VII

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF REASON FOR DISCONTINUING USE AMONG AML USERS (BY DRUGS)

Reason Discontinued	Amphetamines		Marijuana		LSD	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
I have had a bad trip (an emotionally upsetting experience)	35	1.5	70	2.3	90	11.4
I have not been able to get access to the drug	184	8.0	271	8.8	23	2.9
I became convinced that it might be physically or genetically harmful to me	394	17.2	79	2.6	188	23.9
I became convinced that it might be psychologically harmful to me	133	5.8	173	5.6	141	17.9
I became afraid of the possible legal consequences	23	1.0	500	16.2	19	2.5
I felt guilty about using it	24	1.1	113	3.6	7	0.9
I was getting too dependent upon it	71	3.1	19	0.6	5	0.6
I had to be hospitalized as a result of its use	12	0.5	4	0.1	11	1.4
Reasons other than listed	1421	61.9	1865	60.3	302	38.4
Totals	2297	100.1	3094	100.1	786	99.9

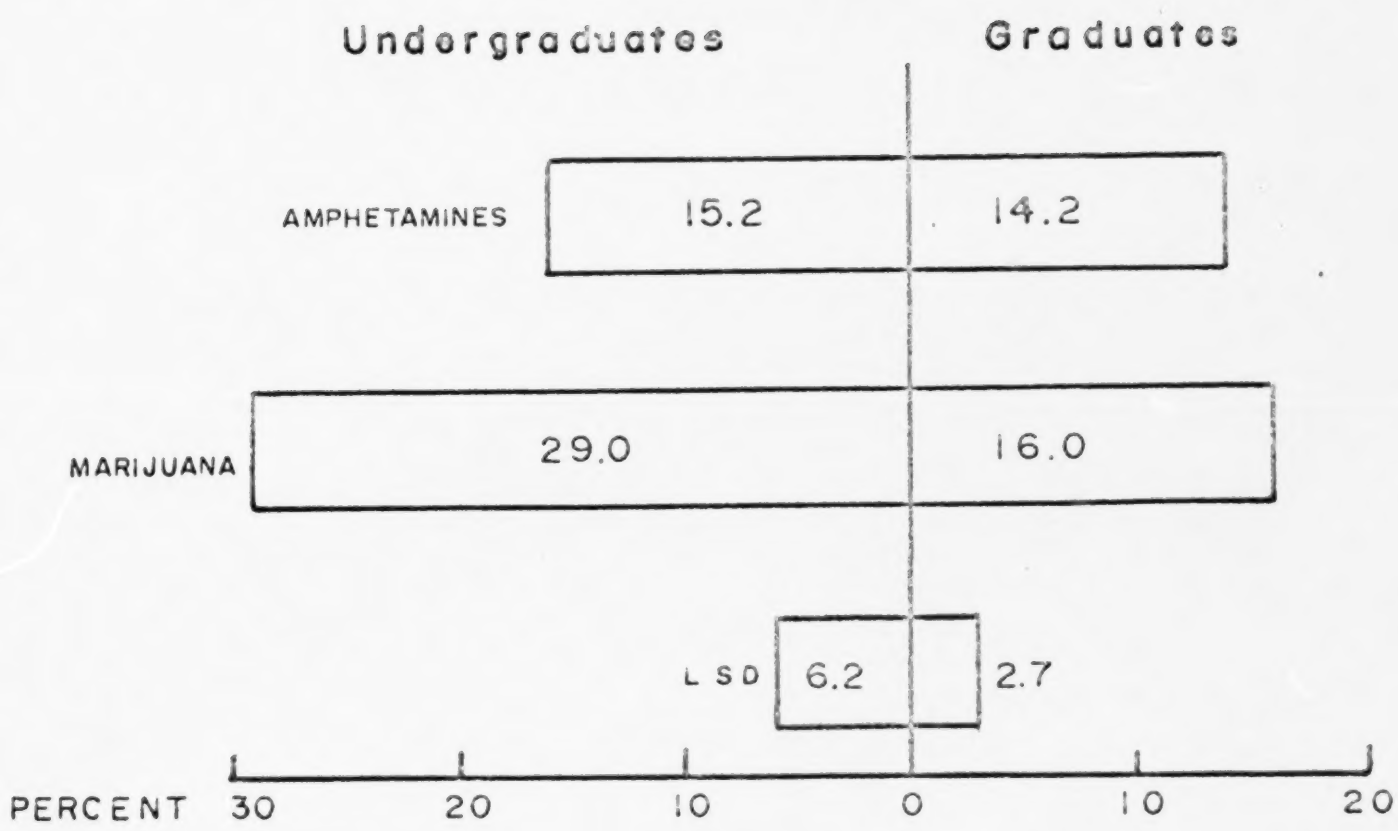

FIGURE 3. Percent undergraduates and graduates reporting histories of AML use (by drugs).

graduate students who use amphetamines is almost equal to that of the graduates. However, almost twice as many undergraduates use marijuana as do graduate students, and when we look at LSD we see the percentage of undergraduate users is more than twice the percentage of graduate users.

We have in Figure 4 listed the types of educational

INSERT FIGURE 4 ABOUT HERE

institutions surveyed and plotted the percentage of drug usage in each.

It is striking to note that in the two schools allied to medicine--the nursing school and the medical school--we see a high percentage of amphetamine usage. They are the only schools in which amphetamine usage is almost as high as marijuana usage. It seems reasonable to assume that this high usage of amphetamines is at least partly a response to the ready availability of these substances in the hospital setting.

We were not surprised by high incidence of amphetamine usage among the students at the medical center. We did not, however, anticipate the high percentage of marijuana usage among these students. The combination of these two factors--amphetamine usage and marijuana usage--places the medical center among the three institutions with highest overall reported lifetime drug usage. Again, however, we

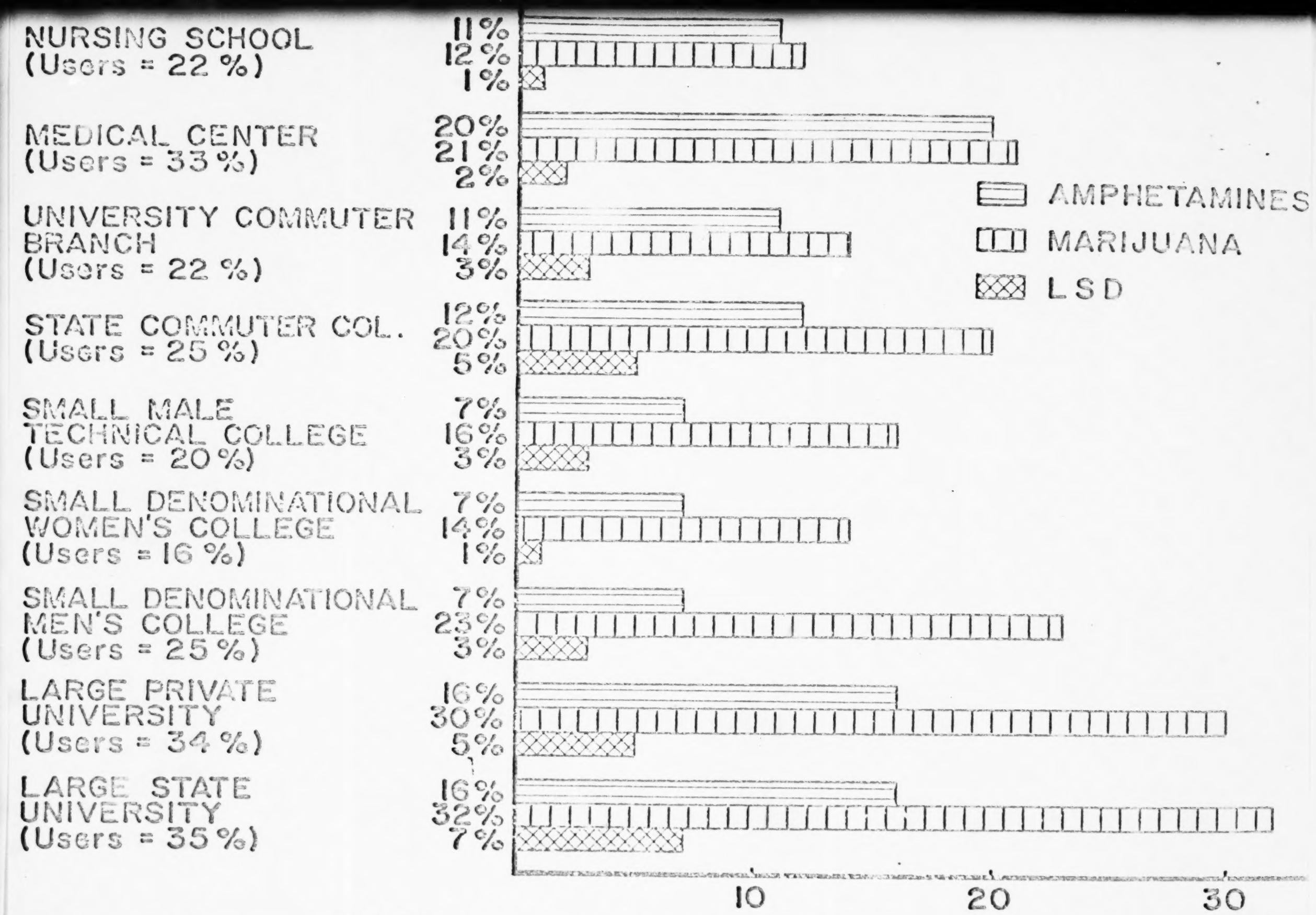

FIGURE 4 REPORTED LIFETIME DRUG USAGE BY SCHOOLS

should emphasize that these figures do not necessarily reflect current usage.

The next two schools are both urban commuter colleges. Both attract students mainly from the Denver area and contain a low percentage of out-of-state students. Economically, many of these students fall into lower socioeconomic groups. The difference between the two schools is that one is a branch of the state university, has somewhat higher academic standards and has a higher percentage of older graduate students. The second is a recently founded state college with a greater percentage of younger freshman and sophomore students than at the branch university. We suspect that this contributes to the slightly higher rate of marijuana and LSD usage at the latter school.

If we now consider the two universities at the bottom of Figure 4, we see a rather different picture. It is immediately apparent that hallucinogen usage is much greater than at any of the other schools and amphetamine usage is only greater among students at the medical center.

What accounts for this high prevalence of drug usage? It has been suggested that the drug usage rate in college populations tends to be higher in those schools with a predominance of students from upper socioeconomic groups. (1) Also, drug usage is said to be higher in the East and West

Coast states. These two schools attract many students from the upper socioeconomic groups and have student bodies from all parts of the country, particularly from the East and West Coast. We will need to analyze our data further to determine with certainty whether geographic distribution is a significant factor. We do have data from other analyses in our study to support the idea that high socioeconomic status is related to drug usage. The undergraduates at the private university represent one of the wealthier groups of students in our area.

When we compare just the undergraduates at the two institutions we find drug usage is higher at the private university. In this group of undergraduates, 37% have used marijuana. The total marijuana usage at this school is less than at the state university because of the higher rate of drug use among the graduate students at the state university.

In comparing two men's colleges, the small technical-engineering college shows less hallucinogen usage than does the denominational men's college. We believe that this lends support to the idea proposed by Richard Blum, [1] among others, that engineering and physical science students are less likely to experiment with hallucinogens than are humanities and social science majors. We will need further analysis of our data to support this hypothesis.

We have presented the initial data from a survey of drug usage among college students. We believe that our results are a fairly accurate reflection of student drug use patterns in our area.

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